

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT  
PUBLIC SESSION  
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2011  
7:00P.M.**

**1. OPENING**

**1.1.1 Call to Order**

Councilwoman Simms called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**1.1.2 Roll Call**

Present: Councilmember Latasha Gatling (Excused), Mayor Eugene Grant (Absent), Councilmember Darrell Hardy, Councilmember Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gerald R. Raynor, Sr., Councilmember Elenora Simms, Councilmember Aretha Stephenson (Late Arrival), Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Robert Ashton, Acting City Administrator, Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk

**1.1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:**

The invocation was given by Councilmember Porter

**1.1.4. Approval of Agenda**

It was motioned by Councilmember Porter and seconded by Councilmember Hardy to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

**2. PRESENTATIONS:**

2.1. None

**3. LEGISLATION**

- None

**4. REPORTS**

**4.1. Mayor's Report:**

- Mayor Grant was absent from the Monday, June 13, 2011 Public Session. No report was submitted from the Office of the Mayor.

**4.2. Council President Report:**

- Councilwoman Simms stated that the Council President report is on the table.

#### **4.3. Seat Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department-**

- Kevin Brenner, Fire Chief reported the numbers for the month of April and May. They had received a grant for \$500, which doesn't require matching funds. It requires them to provide education specifically CPR training, which has begun in April.
- Councilman Porter stated that the council has been working really hard to ensure the Fire Department stays in Seat Pleasant. He has met with Delegate Alston and she is very interested in knowing what goes on in Seat Pleasant. Chief Brenner stated that he was grateful for Councilman Porter meeting with Councilwoman Toles regarding this issue.

#### **4.4. City Administrator Report-**

- Mr. Ashton stated that the Solar Panel work has begun and the inspection was performed by the County and the standard of the work is efficient. The City entered into a new Refuse contract effective June 1, 2011, which resulted in a savings to the City.

#### **4.5. Code Enforcement Officer**

- Ms. Andrews was absent from the Public Session on Monday, June 13, 2011. The Code Enforcement Officer report was submitted in writing.

#### **4.6. Finance Department**

- Mr. Ashton reported that the Finance report was submitted in writing.

#### **4.7. Police Department**

- Chief Prue was absent from the Public Session on Monday, June 13, 2011. The Police Department report was submitted in writing.

#### **4.8. Public Works Department**

- Mr. Thompson was absent from the Public Session on Monday, June 13, 2011. No report was submitted from the Public Works Department.

#### **5. CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

- Amanda Feggans, 300 69<sup>th</sup> Place-She is delighted to hear that we now have a City Administrator. She feels that it should not have taken the City twenty (20) months to fill the position. She would like to know what is happening with the Feggans Center. Councilwoman Simms stated that when the new City Administrator and the Economic Development staff person are hired they will review and provide an update. The new City Administrator will be reviewing the applications for the Economic Development position. Mrs. Feggans thanked Ukk for the work he is doing on the 69<sup>th</sup> Street.

- Ms. Hemphill stated that she hope a committee can be formed to beautify Seat Pleasant Drive. She stated that it could help drivers slow down. She feels that it could be improve and make the residents feel better about where they live. The recycle bins are being thrown anywhere by the trash collector. When they are thrown they are damaging the bins. She would like to know if we could get different containers. She doesn't think it is fair to the City to purchase containers for replacement purposes. She noticed since the new equipment that the streets are getting cleaned more. She feels that they are doing an excellent job in cleaning the streets. She waves at them as her way of saying thank you for doing an excellent job. Councilwoman Simms stated that she can have the public works department apply for a grant for the flowers. We can submit a letter to Bates regarding the thrown recycle bins. Councilman Yeargin stated that if you could give the trash collector something cold to drink it would help them during the warmer months.
- Jacqui Battle, She stated that the shrubs in the Seat Pleasant Heights mini park planted about two (2) years ago a few of them are completely dead. She stated that the solar panels that are being installed to keep down the utility bills, is a good idea. She was excited about the revenue of the \$10,000 from speeding cameras. She stated that she is unhappy that the proposed budget isn't feasible or satisfactory to the citizens. She doesn't feel that the Mayor or Council should have full control of the city. They do not mind a ceremonial Mayor. She stated that the Mayor's serves the resident around the clock. She has checked around and other Mayors are part-time and receive more money than the mayor. She feels that he deserves a raise and a full-time Executive Assistant not a part-time Assistant. She stated that to cut the budget up and not provide them with the new police officers and an increase in their salaries was not right. She stated that the council reduced the salaries, cut out the cars, but increased their salary. It appears that you fatten your pockets. She stated that this council is acting like the old council, which was replaced. She expected this council to bring the city into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with technology, and that isn't happening. She stated that the election year is next year and they will be making changes in the next elections. She feels that the mayor and council need to run the city together and not pull in different directions. She feels that the council either ship up or ship out.
- Wilhelmina Evans stated that she wants the people in the office to communicate with one another. If you are working together you should

communicate with one another. She feels that Mayor is doing an excellent job and is concerned about the children.

- Mr. Kennedy stated that the voter registration cards are listed on the information table. We have some new faces and we need every person to be a part. He stated that by voting you become a part of what is going on. He stated that if you complete the card and drop it off to City Hall he would mail them into the Board of Elections.
- Kevin Gribbrook he is a volunteer of the LaRoche group. He wanted the City Council to provide support for Resolution HB1489. Councilwoman Simms stated to Mr. Gribbrook that he could not address the community with the issue that was not brought before the council. She requested him to contact Mr. Ashton or Ms. Lanham regarding this issue.
- Mr. Mims stated that we were promised speed humps on G Street before the summer had begun. He stated that the speeding is getting worst. He stated that he had showed the new code enforcement officer the back of his property due to the concerns of the property next door. Nothing has been done regarding the overgrown grass. He has seen snakes in his yard and believes they are coming from the overgrown grass next door.
- Ms. Hilton she lives on Greig Street and is concerned about the crime on Greig Street. She stated that it is getting really bad. She would like to know if the cameras can be reactivated. She asked if a stop light can be installed. She stated that they need speed humps on G Street in Ward II. They need to install speed humps all the way down Greig Street. The mailbox was removed from the sign by Pleasant Homes. She stated that the seniors will need to walk down by the cemetery or by the CVS to mail their mail. The mailbox was removed due to the activities. She said she volunteers and she feels that everyone needs to come together and work together.
- Christine Samuel she stated that she is concerned about the speeding on her street, which is G St in Ward II. She stated that she wanted to comment about the comment requiring residents to put their trash inside a trash can with a lid. She doesn't know if it is in the code, but when she puts her trash out she ties it tightly, but the trash cans are getting missing. She stated that the Laundromat is in terrible conditions and smells horrible. They have

people loitering in front of the Laundromat, selling products and using the restroom and they are not washing clothes. She stated that the police sit out front, but they could be doing something else. She said the Code Enforcer or the council need to come down to the Laundromat to see what is going on. She feels that the council can do something about the issue and make them clean up. She is going to give the council a few months and she will come back to see what is being done.

- Ms. Battle stated that the police officers that are sitting in front of the shops were hired by the owner. She stated that all the municipalities' mayor's have an Executive Assistant. She stated that her sister was the individual that was burnt out in New Carrollton and they need clothes and food. Councilwoman Stephenson stated that she did get some clothes from the churches. She hopes the family had received them. Ms. Battle thanked Councilwoman Stephenson for her help and the other residents in the room for their support as well.

## **6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **6.1. None**

## **7. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **7.1. None**


## **8. ANNOUNCEMENT**

8.1. Spring Clean Up Ward V, Saturday, June 18, 2011, 7:00am-3:00pm

8.2. Seat Pleasant Document Shredding Event, Saturday, June 18, 2011 at 8:00am-1:00pm, Seat Pleasant Elementary School

**ADJOURN-** The meeting adjourned at 8:07p.m.

Submitted by,

  
Dashaun N. Lanham  
City Clerk